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Cap 2
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Production and Marketing Administration
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In cooperation with the
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WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ending March 26, 1948)

SAN FRANCISCO, March 23 --- The outstanding vegetable buy this week is celery. Celery prices are very low. Cabbage, Spinach and Rutabagas are also "Best Buys".

Lettuce and cauliflower are "Fairly Good Buys". Supplies of asparagus and artichokes are increasing and prices coming down a little. Artichokes are now in the moderate price field. Squash is still high, although some price decline is in evidence. Peppers are a "Fair Buy".

There is no change in the tomato situation. A few new potatoes (Florida Reds) are on the market at a fairly high price. Sweet potatoes are unchanged, but onions are still going up every day.

Apples, particularly Watsonville Newtowns, though a shade higher, are a "Best Buy" in fruit, along with small sizes of oranges. Grapefruit and pears are "Fair Buys". Avocados are a little higher.

Butter prices reversed the steady decline of the past few weeks with a sharp advance in price. 92 score butter was selling at 83 cents on Monday, as against 77 cents last week.

Poultry prices advanced again because of stronger demand. Fryers advanced 2 to 3 cents, Roasters 3 cents, Leghorn Fowl 1 cent, and Old Roosters 1 cent, over last week's prices. Pre-Easter demand was the factor.

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Trading in ^{fresh}/meats was slow and buying interests were more or less cautious during the greater part of the week. Prices were largely unchanged, with cow beef up \$1.00 and pork also up \$1.00. Beef supplies in general were comprised mainly of Commercial and Good and heifer carcasses. The supplies of fresh veal and calf continued moderate to light. Lamb is plentiful. Fresh pork cuts had broad outlets. The meat packing strike has, as yet, appeared to have no effect on San Francisco prices. .

The egg market held steady and unchanged all week, but trading was slow and movement slower than earlier in the month. Retail sales were off 6 and 9 percent from the previous week and a year ago. Production continued higher. Wholesale quotations were: Grade "A" Large: 52-53 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents per dozen, Mediums: 50-51 $\frac{1}{2}$, Smalls: 45-46 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents, and Grade "B" Large: 49-50 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents per dozen.

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